

REMARKS

The present response is to the Office Action mailed in the above-referenced case on June 13, 2003. Claims 1-24 are pending for examination. The Examiner has rejected applicant's base claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chao et al. (U.S. 6,338,092 B1), hereinafter Chao, in view of Goertzel et al. (U.S. 6,208,952), hereinafter Goertzel. Claims 6, 12, 18 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chao in view of Goertzel, and further in view of Gehami et al. (U.S. 5,765,171), hereinafter Gehami.

Applicant has carefully studied the prior art references cited and applied by the Examiner, and the Examiner's rejections and statements of the instant Office Action. In response, applicant herein amends the claims to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded by applicant as inventive, and herein provides facts and arguments which clearly demonstrate that applicant's claims as amended are unarguably patentable over the prior art presented, either singly or in combination.

Applicant herein amends the base claims to specifically recite that each of the plurality of processors either runs, or is registered with a processor running both the first and second protocols.

Regarding claims 1, 7, 13 and 19, the Examiner has stated that Chao teaches, in a distributed processor system wherein each of the first plurality of processors maintains a copy of the database, applicant's method for synchronized maintenance and distribution of the database (col. 3, lines 22-23) comprising sharing the generated or amended data from the servers to the clients, such that each of the first plurality of processors receives generated and amended data (col. 5, lines 3-47). The Examiner admits that Chao does not teach a processor running

the first and second protocols, as recited in step (a), relying on the reference of Goertzel to teach this deficiency, adding that it would have been obvious to have utilize multiple protocols in Chao, as taught by Goertzel because such protocols enable processors in a computer system to communicate with a wide range of other processors on other computer systems. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's interpretation of the combined prior art as reading on applicant's claims. For convenience, applicant reproduces claim 1 below as amended.

Applicant's claim 1 as amended recites:

1. (Currently Amended) In a distributed processor system wherein a first and a second protocol operating on individual ones of a first plurality of processors are involved in independently generating or amending data for a single database, and wherein each of the first plurality of processors maintains a copy of the database, a method for synchronized maintenance and distribution of the database, comprising the steps of:

(a) registering each of the first plurality of processors with at least one other of the first plurality of processors, creating client-server pairs, in an arrangement that each of the plurality of processors either runs or is registered with a processor running both the first and second protocols; and

(b) sharing the generated or amended data from the servers to the registered clients, such that each of the first plurality of processors receives generated or amended data from both the first and second protocols.

Applicant wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention the specific recitation above in step (a), of " registering each of the first plurality of processors with at least one other of the first plurality of processors, creating client-server

pairs, in an arrangement that each of the plurality of processors either runs or is registered with a processor running both the first and second protocols, and in step (b), "sharing the generated or amended data from the servers to the registered clients, such that each of the first plurality of processors receives generated or amended data from both the first and second protocols.

Applicant's invention teaches, in a system of processors, there are at least two processors that are amending and changing data in the database, and also teaches registering the processors with one other in a way that each processor in the system either runs both protocols, or is registered with a server which runs both protocols. Each processor needs to maintain a copy of the database, and it is required for synchronization of the copies of the database that changes and updates are received from both sources of changes and updates. Therefore, a path must be provided wherein the processor is enabled to receive database copies from both sources, hence the specific limitation recited in the base claims as amended, of "in an arrangement that each of the plurality of processors either runs or is registered with a processor running both the first and second protocols".

Applicant argues that, even though Goertzel teaches a system in which some processors are registered with others, it is not specifically taught or suggested in the reference that each of the plurality of processors either runs or is registered with a processor running both the first and second protocols. Goertzel (col. 1, lines 59-62), as cited and applied by the Examiner, discloses a definition of the various protocols used in the invention, it has nothing to do with the actual claimed specific limitation of each of the plurality of processors either running both protocols, or registering with a processor running both the first and second protocols. There is clearly the disclosure of a network of nodes that are arranged in client-server pairs by registration in a manner in which every single node in the network receives updates from the nodes that are providing data changes and updates from both protocols.

The Examiner has further cited (col. 4, line 36 to col. 5, line 20) of Goertzel in support of his position that the invention of the reference reads on applicant's claims. Applicant respectfully points out, however, that after careful and thorough review of the entire portion, there is no discussion or suggestion of applicant's specific limitations as argued above. Different ways of registering various protocols are discussed, but there clearly is no specific teaching or suggestion anywhere in the portion about the plurality of processors either running both protocols, or registering with a processor running both the first and second protocols.

As there clearly is no teaching or suggestion in either Chao or Goertzel of the above-argued specific limitation of applicant's base claims as argued above, applicant strongly contends that the references, either singly or combined, clearly fail to read on applicant's base claims. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 19 are therefore patentable over the combined prior art as cited and applied by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 12, 18 and 24 as being unpatentable over Chao in view of Goertzel, and further in view of Gehami. The above claims are dependent on applicant's amended base claims which have been clearly demonstrated to be patentable over the combined art of Chao/Goertzel, and are therefore also patentable, as Chao/Goertzel fail in combination to read on applicant's base claims. Depending claims 2-5, 8-11, 14-17 and 21-23 are also therefore patentable on their own merits or at least as depended from a patentable claim.

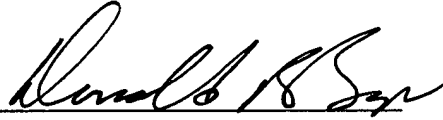
As all of the claims left standing and as amended and argued above are clearly shown to be patentable over the prior art either singly or in combination, applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn, and that the case be passed quickly to issue.

If any fees are due beyond fees paid with this amendment, authorization is made to deduct those fees from deposit account 50-0534. If any time extension is

needed beyond any extension requested with this amendment, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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